

# ERL

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LETTERS

*“Environmental Research Letters will be a new, world-class, open-access journal dedicated to bringing together intellectual and professional scientists, economists, engineers and social scientists, as well as the public sector and civil society who are engaged in efforts to understand the state of natural systems and, increasingly, the human footprint on the biosphere.”*

DANIEL M KAMMEN,  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

## Journal scope

Launching in 2006 as a high-impact, open-access Letters journal, *Environmental Research Letters* (ERL) will provide a coherent and integrated approach including research articles, commentaries, news, views, and book and meeting reviews, as well as meeting and professional notices for the environmental science community. Completely free to read, ERL will be funded by an article publication charge.

ERL is intended to be the meeting place of the research, action and policy communities concerned with environmental change and management.

**[erl.iop.org](http://erl.iop.org)**

Institute of **Physics** PUBLISHING

## Typical areas of interest will include:

- **Biodiversity** – patterns and change, species-area relationships, impacts and dynamics of inter-species dynamics and resilience, threats and strategies for management and protection.
- **Climate change** – historical and forecasting studies, aspects of the geologic and anthropogenic record, monitors for greenhouse gases, climate modelling results, issues, risks and debates, rapid climate change, ocean/atmospheric interaction and carbon sequestration.
- **Demographics and the environment** – including development issues and urbanization in the face of, for example, sea level rises, coastal erosion and climate change.
- **Energy** – conventional and non-conventional fossil fuels, renewables, long-term supply issues, industrial and end-use efficiency, new materials, waste disposal, personal and national energy footprints, and a wide range of economic and life-cycle impact analyses.
- **Environmental history and culture** – understanding of human-environment interactions, changing valuations of ecosystem services, health and degradation. Culture-development narratives and conflicts. Environmental justice and racial, ethnic and socio-economic inequalities. Environmental law.
- **Environmental and resource economics** – the valuation and management of natural resources, the relationship of environmental and classical economic perspectives, global change economics, renewable and non-renewable resource economics.
- **Health** – human and ecological health and feedbacks. The global burden of disease, and changing health impacts resulting from environmental pollution and climate change. Emerging health technologies and practices stemming from, or relating to, changing environmental awareness or conditions. Animal sentinels of ecological health and harbingers of global change.
- **Policy analysis** – scenario development and analysis, management of uncertainty. Analysis of research, development and implementation strategies, and processes of innovation. Integrated assessment methods, use of global climate models, mesoscale models and interfaces between new remote sensing and local data flows, and analysis tools.
- **Pollution** – anthropogenic waste and bi-product flows, life-cycle analysis, economic instruments, sensors, modelling, economic and other management tools.
- **Science and politics of environmental risk assessment** – tools for environmental risk assessment, from new technologies and data networks, to pollution assessment and ecological health. Analytic and epidemiological approaches and limitations, environmental risk and financial systems.
- **Science and practice of sustainability** – metrics and best practices of sustainability, traffic patterns, developing world needs, efficient ‘green’ manufacturing, raw materials, their long-term prospects and alternatives; methodological and assessment issues and findings.

## Author benefits

### Quality assurance

The main priority for ERL is to publish research Letters of the highest quality and impact. Every article submission will be subject to rigorous peer review by the Editorial Board and independent referees.

### Broad readership

As a free-to-read journal ERL will attract a worldwide audience. The journal's broad readership will therefore give authors the opportunity to convey the importance of their work to the wider physics community in addition to specialists in their field.

### High visibility

Open-access guarantees outstandingly high article visibility. Every ERL article can expect to be downloaded (full text) hundreds of times within weeks of publication.

### Fast publication

As a high-impact Letters journal, ERL will place great importance on ensuring rapid publication. The journal will take advantage of its online medium by offering accelerated publication while ensuring rigorous peer review.

### Online functionality

ERL authors are fully encouraged to take advantage of the online medium by including supplementary features relevant to their work. This can include movies, animations, sound files and colour at no extra charge.

## An invitation to submit to ERL

You can submit your article to ERL using our simple online submission form at [authors.iop.org](http://authors.iop.org). This is the most efficient submission method and therefore the quickest to publication.

Alternatively, you can send your article's single compressed archive file as an attachment to an e-mail to [erl@iop.org](mailto:erl@iop.org) stating electronic submission in the subject line.

## Further information

Please email [erl@iop.org](mailto:erl@iop.org) or visit [erl.iop.org](http://erl.iop.org) for more information about ERL and to receive updates as and when new details become available.